MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) ; Yes, he had some basis to proceed upon. In 1086 the factory yielded 9,332 maunds and hence the expectation of the licensee and the estimate formed by the Excise Commissioner were not without foundation.

Tinnevelly Salt.

65. **MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR** (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*) : (1) Is it a fact that the merchants of Alleppey have complained against the low quality of the Tinnevelly salt issued from the Port Salt Depôt, Alleppey, and if so, have the Government or the Excise Commissioner enquired into the complaints and what is the result ?

(2) Is the Tinnevelly salt supplied to the Alleppey Depôt equal to the sample furnished by the supply contractor ; if it is not equal to sample, have the Government taken action under the agreement towards reducing the contract rate ?

(3) Are the Government aware that the supply contractor to the Alleppey Depôt purchased about 30,000 maunds of British Government salt at Tuticorin at about 2 annas per maund and supplied the same to the Alleppey Depôt, although such salt is powdered and is far inferior to the sample furnished by the contractor ?

(4) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a comparative statement for 1101 and 1102 showing the monthly consumption at Alleppey of Tinnevelly salt, for the months of Dhanu, Makaram, Kumbham and Minam ?

(5) Is it a fact that the transport of Tinnevelly salt to the Alleppey Depôt has been stopped temporarily, and, if so, why has it been stopped ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : (1) The question is vague as regards the time when such complaints are said to have been received. If the reference is to the contract for 1102, the answer is in the negative.

(2) If the member refers to the present supply contractor, some consignments were not equal to sample and necessary action has been taken under the agreement to reduce the supply price for these consignments.

(3) No.

(4) The statement asked for is subjoined :

	1101		1102
	Mds.	*Srs.*	*Mds.*
Dhanu	33,693	15	25,056
Makaram	27,290	17	23,956
Kumbham	19,885	1	25,048
Minam	30,017	19	25,772

(5) Yes ; on account of heavy rains at Tuticorin. Supply was resumed after some time.

MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*) ; With reference to the answer to part (3), will the Governmen

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

be pleased to make an enquiry whether as a matter of fact the contractor purchased 30,000 maunds at such a low price as 2 annas per maund and supplied the same?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : The report says that there was no such complaint.

MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*) : Are the Government aware that he actually purchased it at 2 annas from the Government Depot, Tuticorin, and supplied the same at Alleppey?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : The purchase is one and the supply is another. Whether he did supply it at Alleppey depot is the question at issue. The Excise Commissioner says that there was no such complaint.

MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*) : I want to know whether the contractor purchased his salt at Tuticorin and supplied it at Alleppey?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : There is no such report from the Excise Commissioner or complaint from the public.

MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*) : Will the Government be pleased to enquire whether such a salt was purchased?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : If necessary.

MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*): I think it is necessary. Because I know such powdered salt was sold at Tuticorin by the British Government and therefore the enquiry is highly necessary.

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : It will be enquired into.

Road west of the S. N. V. English High School, Nedunganda.

66. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether their attention has been drawn to the dangerous condition of the road running west of the S. N. V. School, Nedunganda ;

(*b*) whether the inhabitants of this locality presented a petition to the Dewan regarding this and also the extension of the road to Onnatumpalam, a distance of one furlong, when he visited the school ; and

(*c*) whether they will take early steps to redress this grievance?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) and (*b*) Yes.

(*c*) An estimate for the improvement of the road is being prepared by the Public Works Department. Action will be taken after the estimate is prepared.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : With reference to part (*b*), may I know when the inhabitants presented a petition to the Dewan?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : That information is not before me.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly